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"(*b*) The State Port Officer has submitted certain proposals for improvements to the Port. The Special Officer appointed by the Government of India has also made certain recommendations. These can be considered only after a hydrographic survey of the Port which is proposed to be taken up in the near future, has been completed."

11-20 p.m. SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP:—"In view of the fact that Kozhikode, the only port for Malabar, is not very useful during the south-west monsoon, will the Government expedite the consideration of the matter?"

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"As I already said, Sir, the matter is under consideration."

Disafforestation in Repalle taluk.

* 65 *Q.*—SRI V. SRI KRISHNA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government have received any application recently from the residents of Kothapalem, Repalle taluk of Guntur district, requesting the Government to disafforest an area of 800 acres in Block 2 of the Reserve Forest of the said village and assign the same for cultivation; and if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA:—"Yes, Sir, the matter is under consideration."

SRI V. SRI KRISHNA:—"అక్కడ వందలకొలది ఎకరాల భూమిని అరణ్యముగా ప్రభుత్వము నిర్ణయించింది. కాని అవి ఒక మొక్కగూడలేని మహారణ్యాలు, అలాంటప్పుడు ఆ భూమిని సాగుచేసుకొనుటకు పేదవారికి ఇచ్చినట్లయితే, దాని ప్రక్కనే ఇర్రిగేషన్ canal ఒకటివున్నది. దాన్ని ఉపయోగించుకొని 2 వేల ఎకరాల భూమిని సాగులోకి తీసుకొని రావచ్చునని విషయాన్ని ప్రభుత్వము గమనించి దానిని పేదవారికి సాగుకు ఇస్తారా?"

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA:—"Yes, Sir, the matter is being considered."

Rice content of the ration in Upland and Delta areas.

* 66 *Q.*—SRI V. RAMA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many ounces of rice are given per head per day in Fair Price shops in (1) Upland areas; (2) Delta areas of Krishna district; and

(*b*) if there is any disparity between the two areas, the reasons for it?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—"(*a*) Four ounces in Upland areas and eight ounces in Delta areas.

"(*b*) The population drawing ration from ration shops in the deltaic areas are mostly agriculturists or agricultural labourers connected with the production of paddy who are accustomed to consume rice as their main diet. But people